GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:450
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2002
VISIT OF U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR
DALPAT SINGH PARASTE;SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U.S. State Department Director visited India recently;

(b) if so, the issues discussed; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS(SHRI YASHWANT SINHA)

(a) Yes. The U.S. State Department`s Director for Policy Planning Dr. Richard Haass visited India on 28-29 October 2002.

(b) His visit provided the two sides the opportunity to discuss long-term development of India-U.S. relations and exchange views on regional and international developments, including the current trends in cross-border terrorism from Pakistan.

(c) The visit was part of the process of, and contributed to, the strengthening of the strategic framework of India-U.S. relations, agreed upon by Prime Minister and U.S. President Bush in November 2001 in Washington D.C. and reaffirmed during their September 2002 meeting in New York.